

Technology Development of Modular, Low-Cost, High-Temperature Recuperators for Supercritical CO₂ Power Cycles

DE-FE0026273 Kickoff Meeting

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Southwest Research Institute

Outline

- **Project Participants**
- **Project and Technical Overview**
 - **sCO₂ Power Cycle**
 - **sCO₂ Heat Exchangers**
 - **sCO₂ Recuperators**
- **Proposed Scope**
 - **Objectives**
 - **Work Breakdown**
- **Project Management**

Project Participants

- **Thar Energy, LLC**
- **Southwest Research Institute**
- **Oak Ridge National Labs**
- **Georgia Institute of Technology**

Project Participant Roles

Thar Energy

- Prime contractor
- Technical gap assessment
- Design for manufacturing
 - Focus manufacturability & cost
 - Multiple design analysis
- Design for operability, prototyping, & fabrication
 - Down select
- Final Design for manufacturability
- Recuperator fabrication

SwRI

- Combined system engineering design
- Thermodynamic analysis
- FEA Modeling

ORNL

- Materials science
 - Long-term corrosion resistance
 - Creep resistance
 - New alloy and/or coating formulation

Georgia Institute of Technology

- CFD simulation & analysis of heat exchanger concepts

Delivering clean energy solutions - rooted in natures' design

- **Advanced Systems for Power Generation**
- **Advanced Heat Exchanger Technology**
- **Sustainable Heating & Cooling Solutions**
- **Cost Effective Water Processing**

Core competencies:

- 25+ years commercializing “Green” supercritical fluid technologies (SCF)
- Designer and developer of supercritical fluid processes, systems & major components
- Industrial scale 24/7/365 installations, world wide:
 - Food
 - Chemicals
 - Nutraceutical
 - Pharmaceutical
- Heat exchangers for high pressure, high temperature application



Shown here:
Pharmaceutical production system
 ... Good Manufacturing Process
 ... Supercritical fluid extraction

Thar has a history of successfully designing & commercializing **Green Products** using recycled Carbon Dioxide.

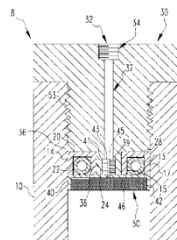
Launch
Suprex



Suprex sold to
Teledyne Isco
Launch
Thar Brand



Pressurized
Vessel with Self-
Energizing Seal



Spin out
operating
divisions

1982



Chemical
Engineering

1985

Earn
PhD

U.S. Patents 4,814,089 & 4,871,453
Chromatographic Separation
Method and Associated Apparatus

1990

Approached
DOE with sCO₂
Brayton Cycle
Concept

Launch Operating Div.

- Thar Instruments
- Thar Process
- Thar Pharma

Products and Processes
Commercialized

Awards & Patents Received
U.S. Patents #5,336,869, #5,461,648,
#5,694,973, #5,850,934, #5,879,081,
#5,886,293, #6,908,557, #7,091,366,
#6,698,214.

2007

Acquired
Berger
from
Metler
Toledo

2001, 2002 Governor's Export Excellence Award Finalist
2002 National Small Business Exporter of the Year
2002 NIST ATP Awardee (Microrefrigeration)
2002, 2003 Top 25 Biotech Companies
2002, 2003 Top 100 Fastest Growing Companies
2003 Fastest Growing Small Manufacturer Award
2004 Manufacturer of the Year

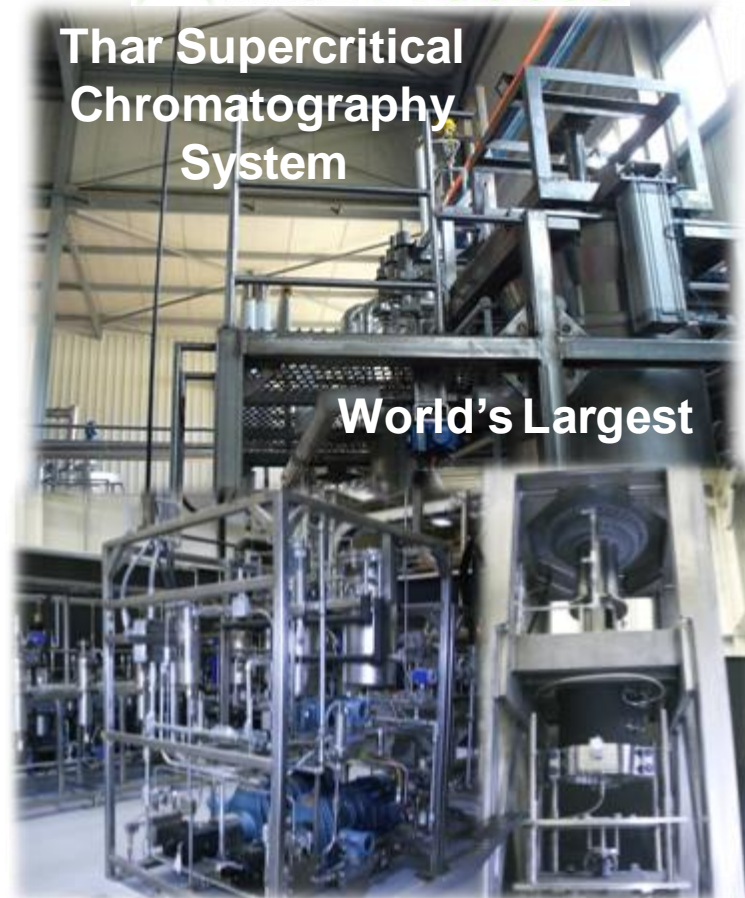
Sales, Design-Build, Install and Service



**Over 5,000 green
installations world wide**



**Thar Supercritical
Chromatography
System**



World's Largest

**Over 20 Industrial green
installations world wide**

Thar Timeline (cont.)

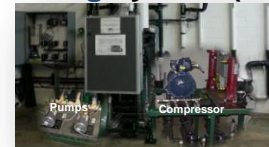
High Pressure
sCO₂ Pumps



Advanced Heat
Exchanger Technology
Demonstration



Demonstrations at commercial
scale - geothermal heating &
cooling system (15-20 ton)



Laboratory testing and
component development

Launch
TharGeothermal

Thar Instruments, ~125
strong, Offices worldwide,
Sold to Waters



1st R744
Geothermal Cooling
Demonstration

Validated potential
for R744 DX heat
pump cycle

NIST funds micro-
refrigeration
project

2002

2005

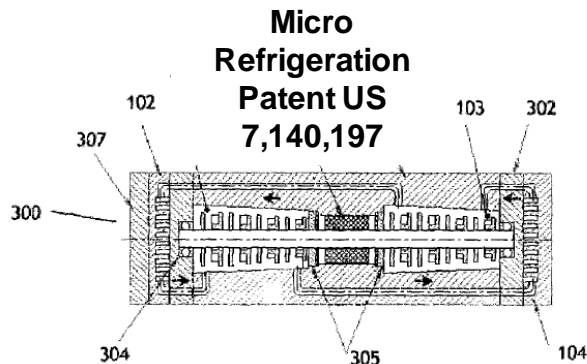
2009

2010

2012

Radiant
Floor

2014



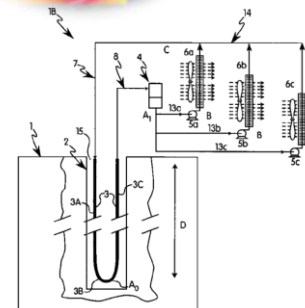
Micro
Refrigeration
Patent US
7,140,197

Evaluation of Commercial
Drill Technology



Vertical and Horizontal
well fields installed

Geothermal
Energy System
Patent US
8,468,845



Southwest Research Institute

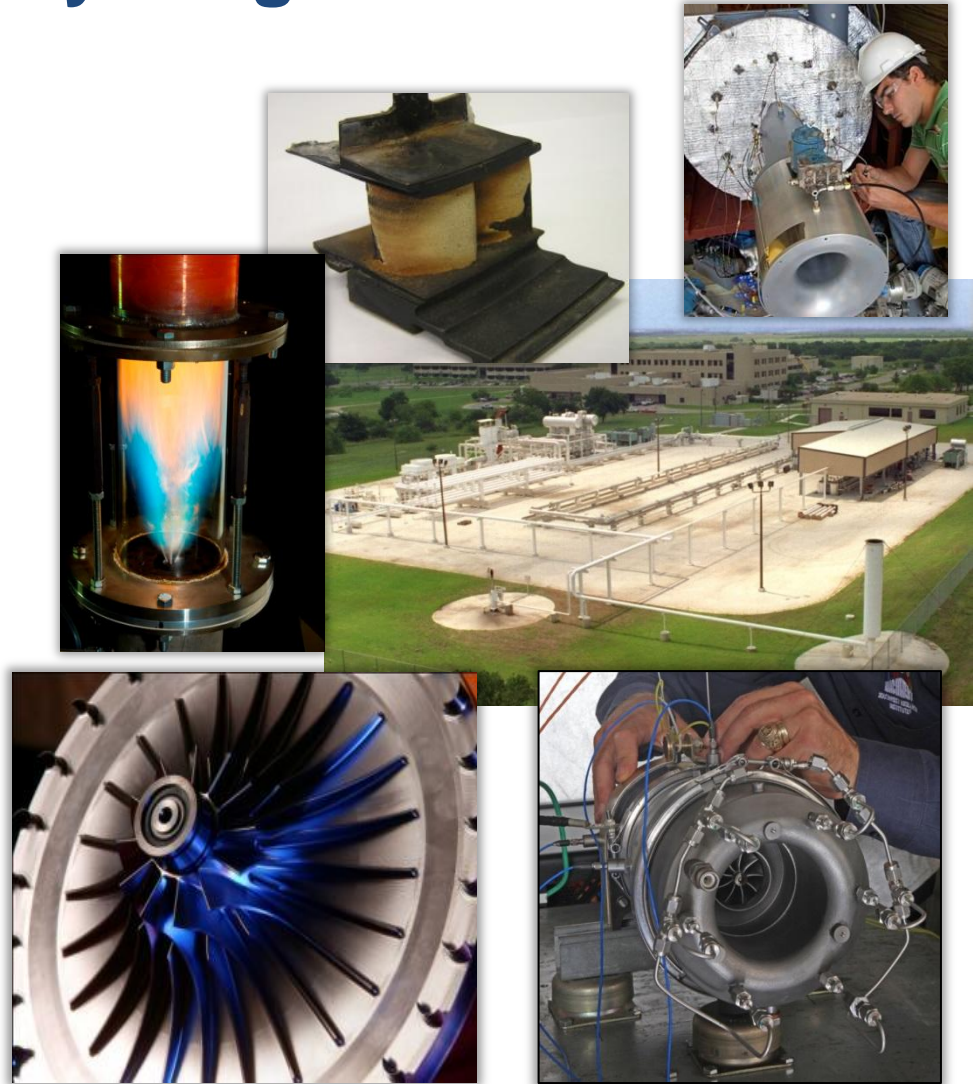
- Independent, nonprofit applied research and development organization founded in 1947
- Eleven technical divisions
 - Aerospace Electronics, Systems Engineering & Training
 - Applied Physics
 - Applied Power
 - Automation & Data Systems
 - Chemistry & Chemical Engineering
 - Engine, Emissions & Vehicle Research
 - Fuels & Lubricants Research
 - Geosciences & Engineering
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Signal Exploitation & Geolocation
 - Space Science & Engineering
- Total 2013 revenue of \$592 million
 - 38% Industry, 36% Govt., 26% Govt. Sub
 - \$6.7 million was reinvested for internal research and development
- Over 2,800 staff
 - 275 PhD's / 499 Master's / 762 Bachelor's
- Over 1,200 acres facility in San Antonio, Texas
 - 200+ buildings, 2.2 million sq. ft of laboratories & offices
 - Pressurized Closed Flow Loops
 - Subsea and High Altitude Test Chambers
 - Race Oval and Crash Test Track
 - Explosives and Ballistics Ranges
 - Radar and Antenna Ranges
 - Fire testing buildings
 - Turbomachinery labs



***Benefiting government, industry and the public
through innovative science and technology***

Machinery Program

- Fluids & Machinery Engineering Department
 - Mechanical Engineering Division (18)
- Specialties
 - Turbomachinery component design and testing
 - Root cause failure analysis
 - Rotordynamic design/audit
 - Pipeline/plant simulation
 - CFD and FEA analysis
 - Test stand design
 - Performance testing



ORNL is providing material support



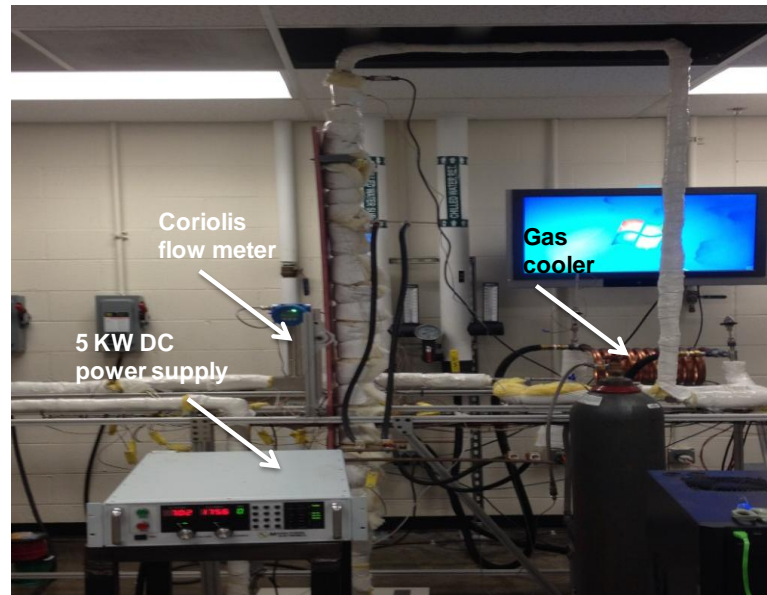
- Bruce Pint, Group Leader of Corrosion group
 - ~30 years experience in high temp. oxidation
 - Fellow of NACE International and ASM International
- Relevant prior experience
 - Thin-walled heat exchangers for gas turbines (1995-2015)
 - Materials for 760°C (1400°F) supercritical steam (2002-2015)
 - Alloy selection for numerous high temperature applications
 - Extensive commercial alloy corrosion performance database
- On-going supercritical CO₂ compatibility work
 - Fossil Energy (400-750°C)
 - Concentrated Solar Power (700°-800°C)



Devesh Ranjan, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering

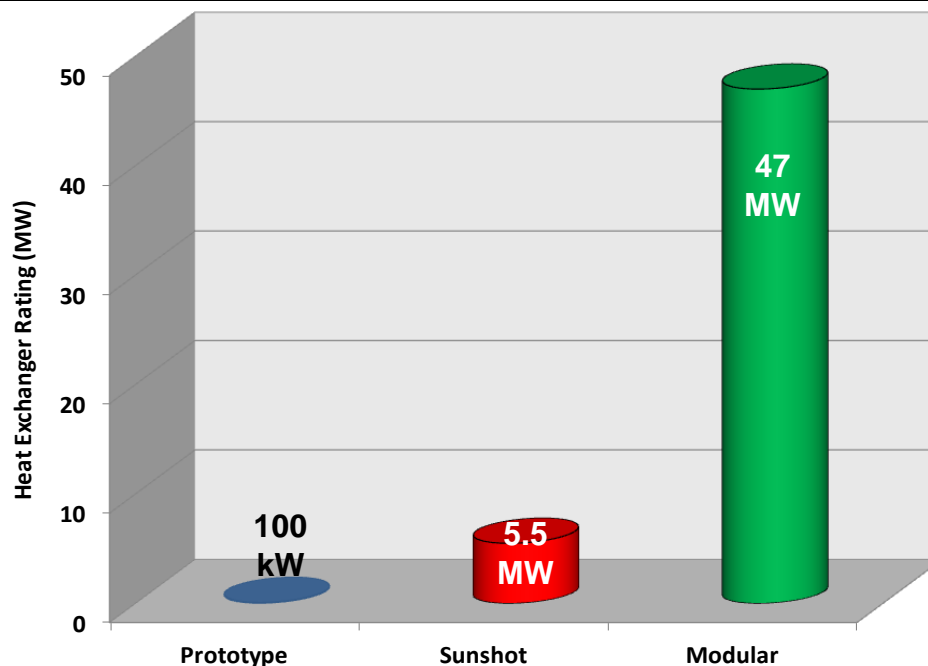
- **Expertise: Thermal-Hydraulics of Supercritical Fluids, Turbulent Mixing**
- **Current Active Projects: sCO₂ oxy-combustion, ceramic heat exchanger design, & nucleation study in sCO₂ flows**

Heat Exchanger Test Facility



Current DOE sCO₂ Projects

PROJECTS	2014	2nd	3rd	4th	2015	2nd	3rd	4th	2016	2nd	3rd	4th	2017	2nd	3rd
Sunshot - 5.5 MW Recuperator 1st Generation	SwRI + Thar														
High T High Delta P - 100 kW Recuperator - 2nd Generation				Thar + SwRI											
Modular - 47 MW Recuperator 3rd Generation								Thar + SwRI + ORNL + GT						Phase 2 Two years	
Sunshot - 2.5 MW Heater 1st Generation	SwRI + Thar														
Oxy Combustion sCO ₂ Power Cycles				SwRI + Thar											
Absorption/Desorption sCO ₂ Power Cycles								SwRI + Thar							



Project and Technology Overview

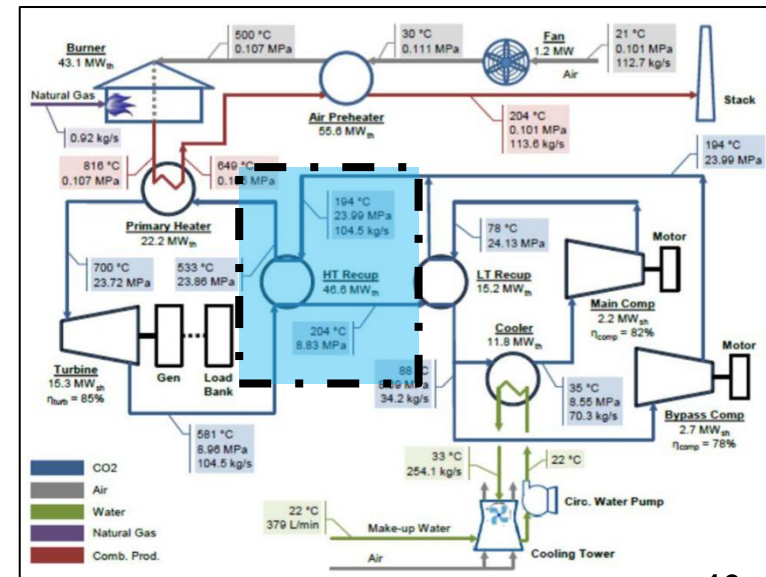
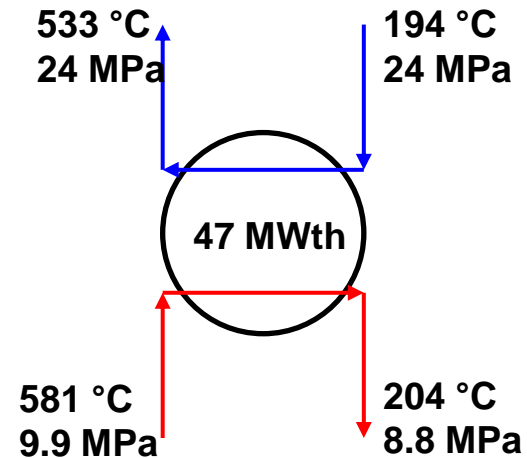
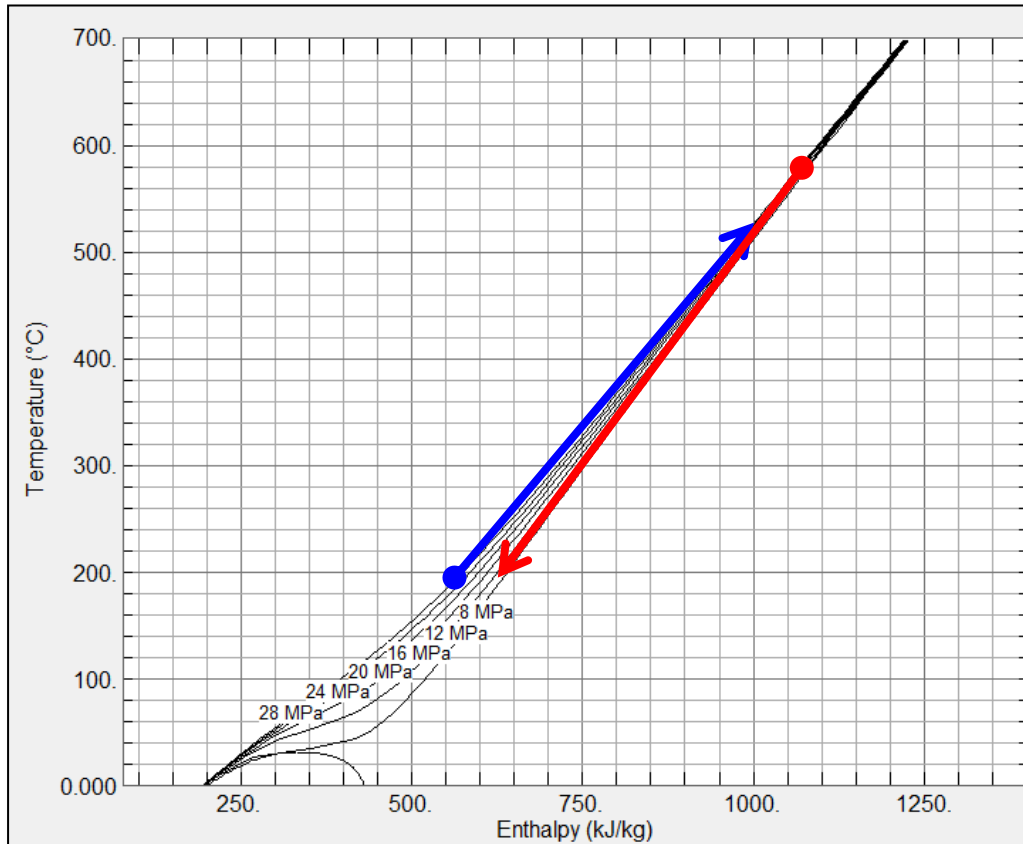
Objective:

- Advance high-temperature, high-differential-pressure recuperator technologies suitable for use in sCO₂ Recompression Brayton Cycle (RCBC)
- Evaluate, advance, and demonstrate recuperator concepts, materials, and fabrication methods that facilitate the commercial availability of compact and low cost recuperators for RCBC conditions (e.g. temperatures exceeding 700°C and differential pressures on the order of 200 bar)
- Emphasis placed on scalable solutions able to accommodate plant sizes from 10 - 1,000 MWe.

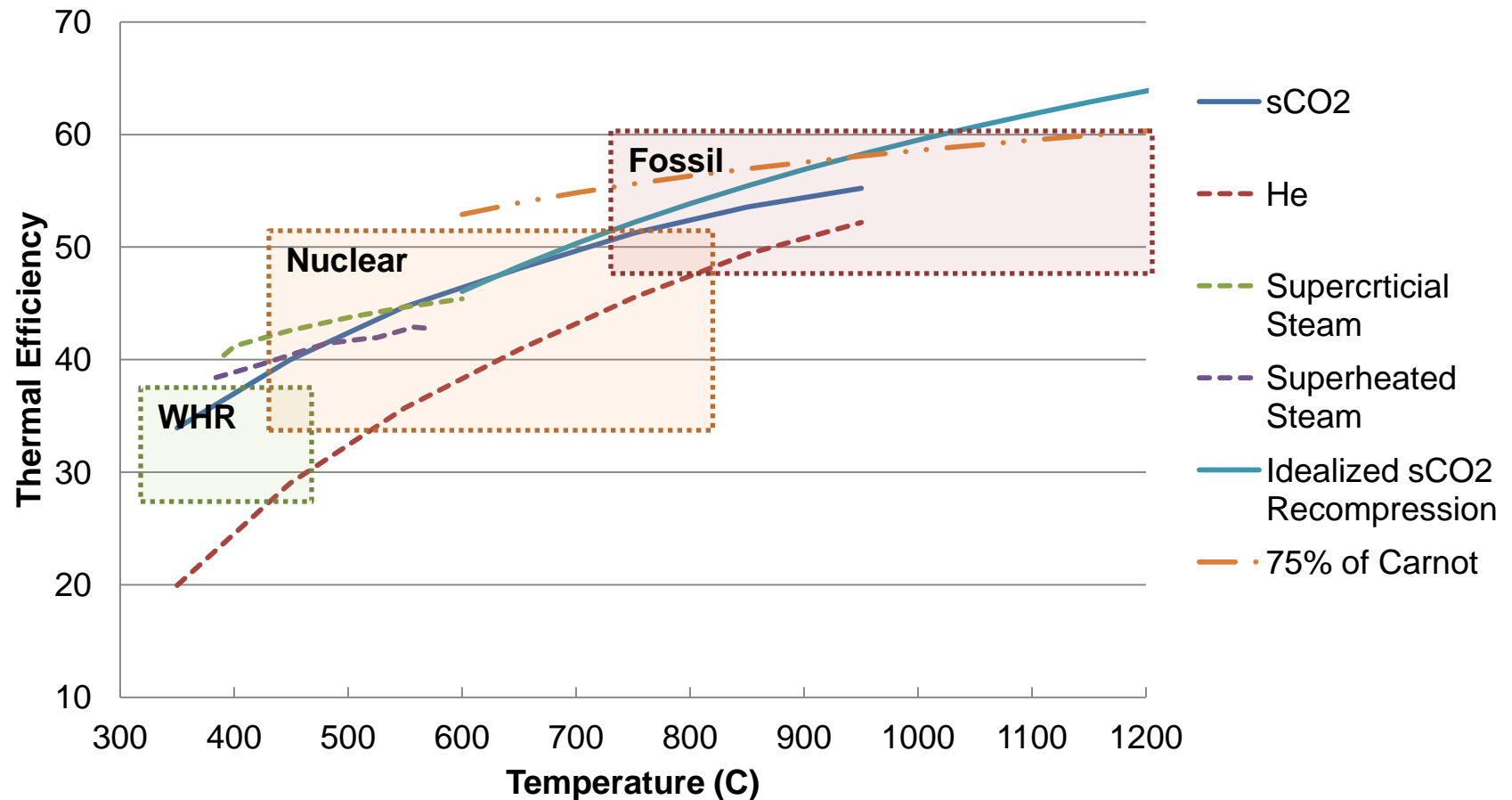
Program will:

- (1) Address critical design, materials, and fabrication challenges
- (2) Significant impact on recuperator cost, performance, and scalability

Develop a scalable, high temperature recuperator for STEP facility conditions

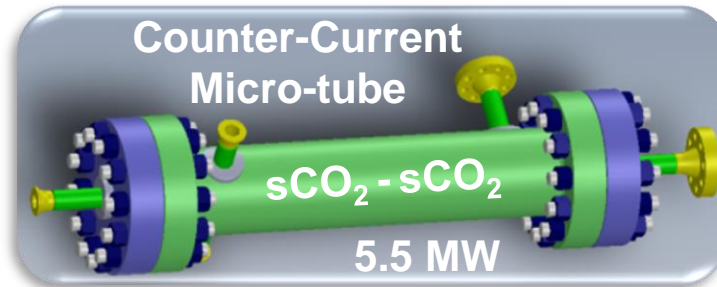


Why sCO₂?

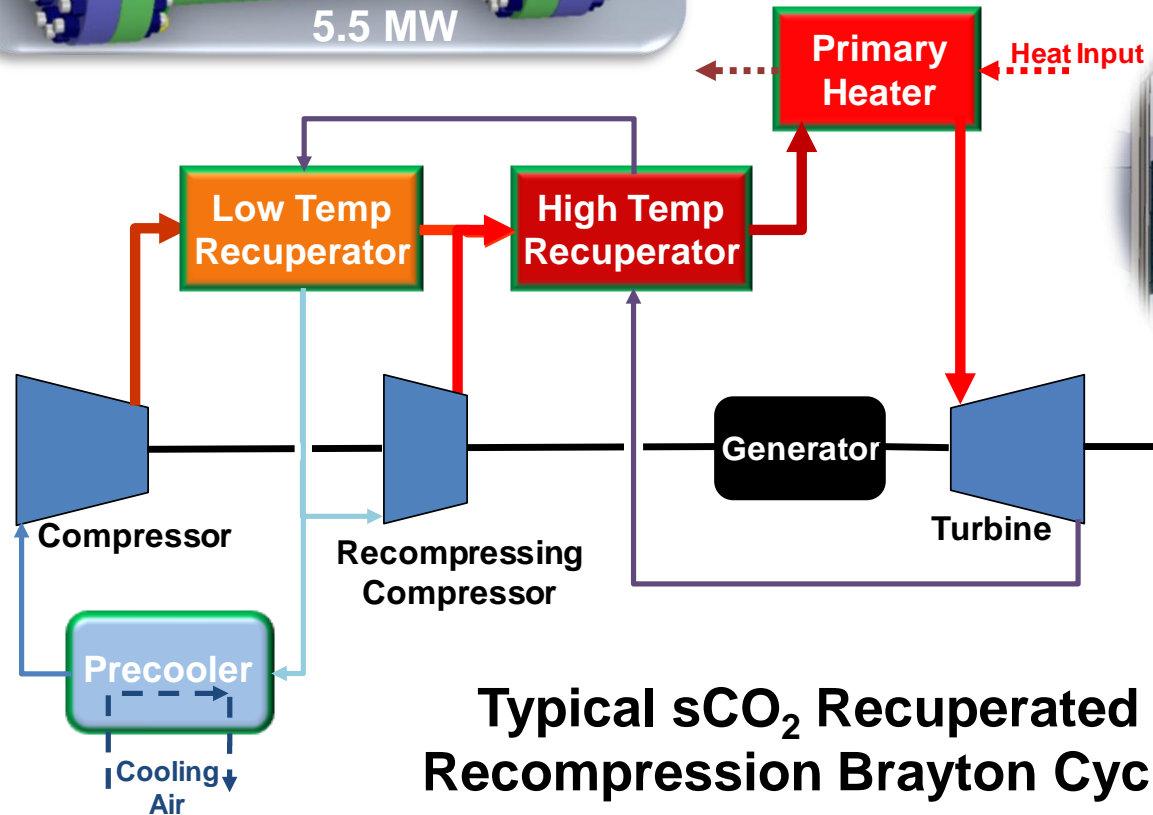
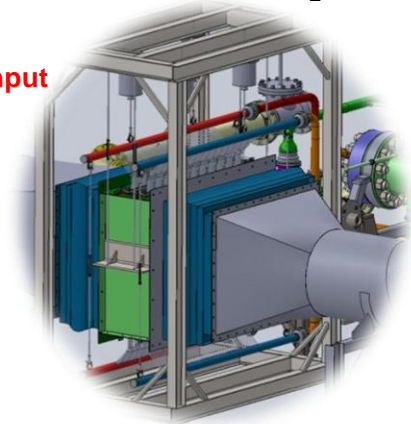


sCO₂, He, Supercritical Steam, and Superheated Steam are from
Driscoll MIT-GFR-045, 2008

Thar Energy sCO₂ Recuperators, Heater HXs & Precooler HXs



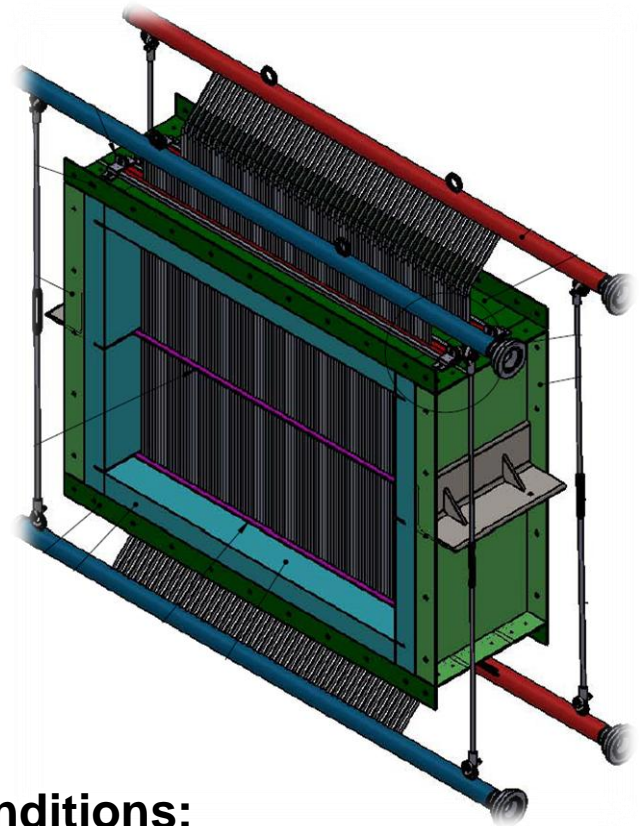
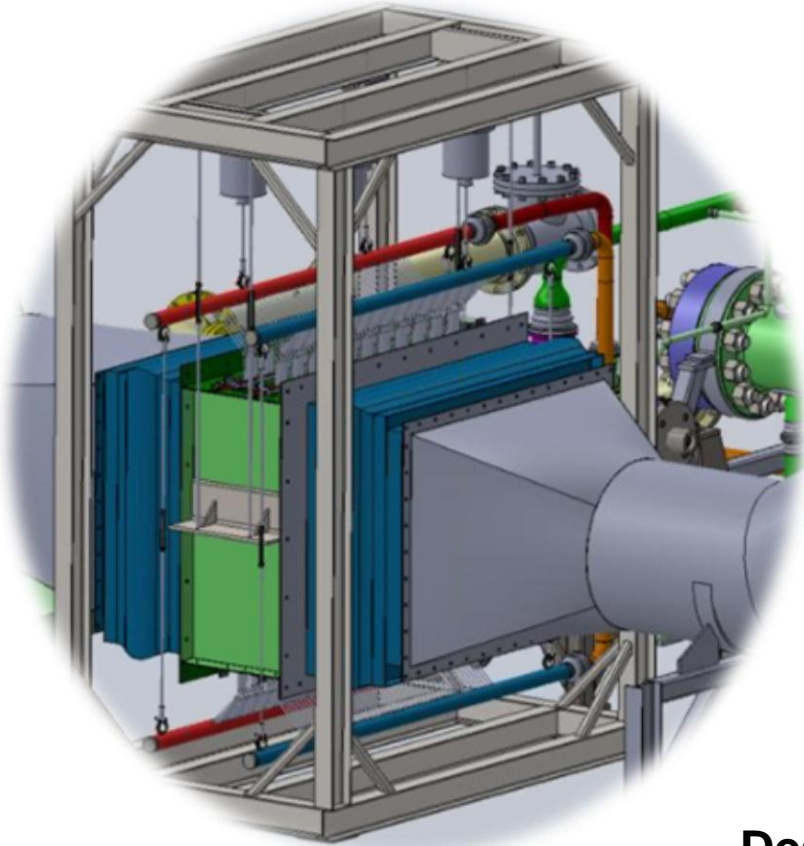
2.5 MW Inconel 740H
Hot Air-sCO₂ HX



**Typical sCO₂ Recuperated
Recompression Brayton Cycle**

Sunshot Heater HX Design – 2.5 MW

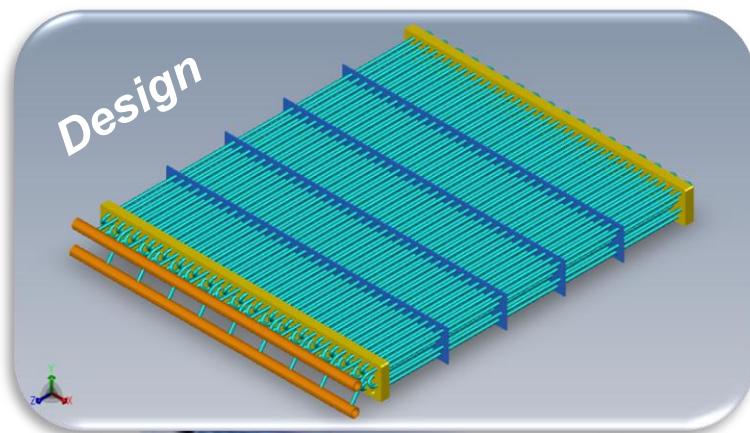
Hot Gas to sCO₂ HX
Inconel 740H Construction



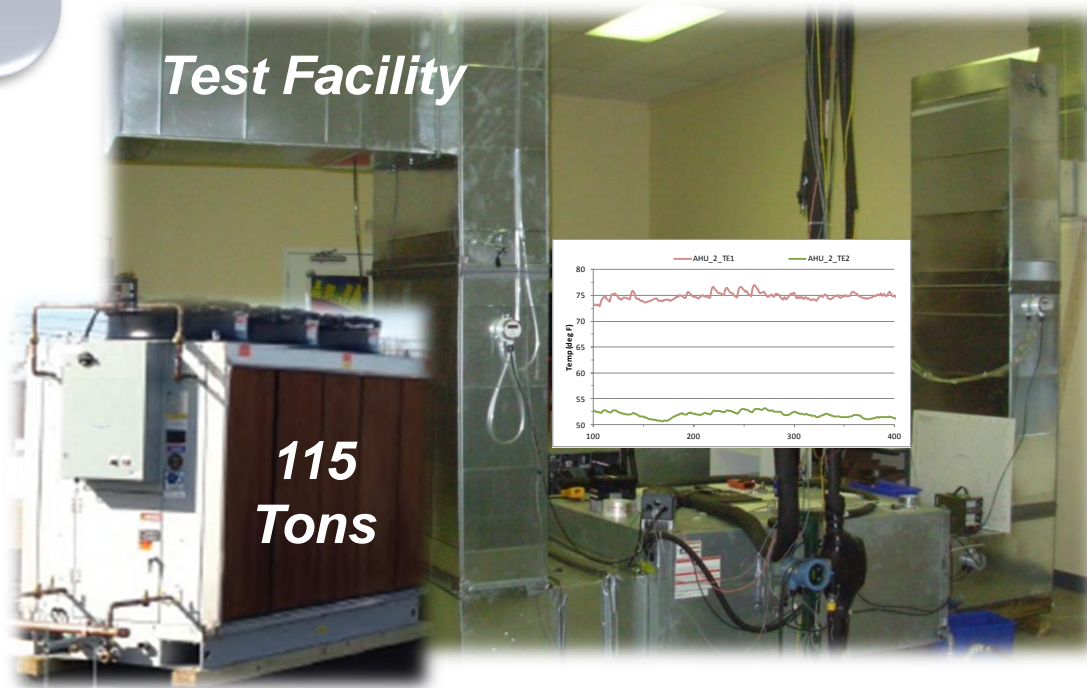
Design Conditions:

Gas Fired Burner/Blower Outlet Temperature: 870°C
sCO₂ Outlet Temperature: 715°C

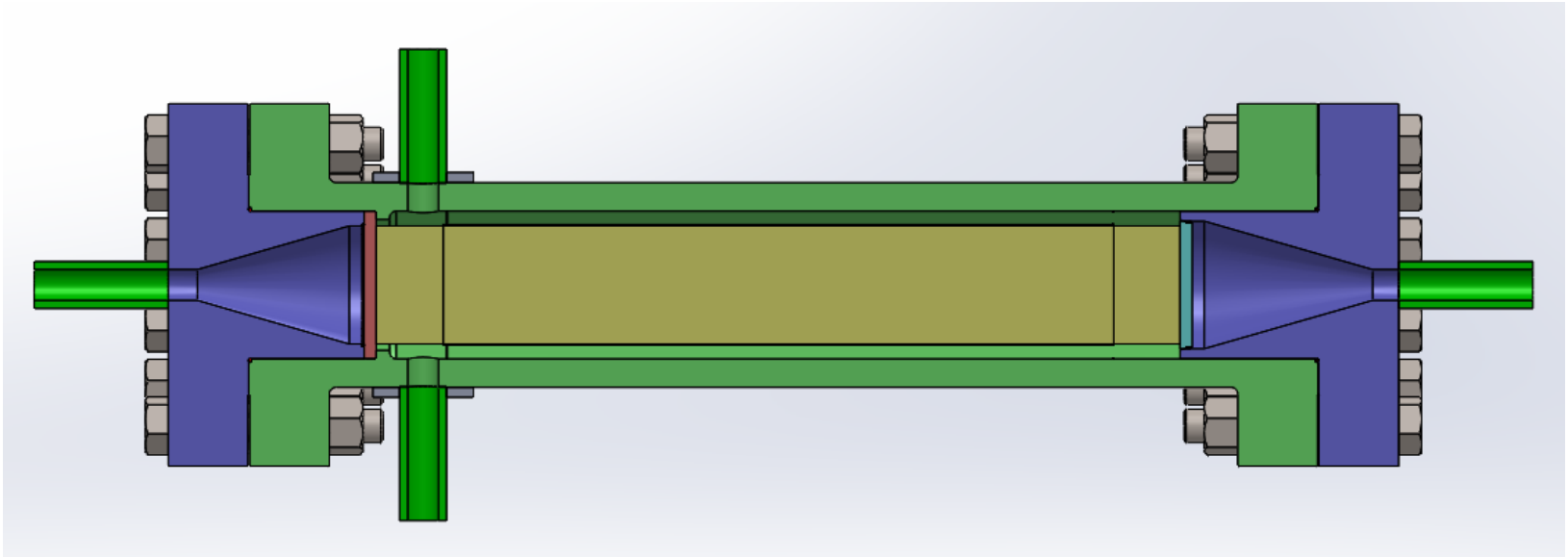
sCO₂ Gas Cooler HXs 35-500 kW



**CO₂-Air
Approach
Temperature as
Low as 2°C**



1st Generation Recuperator Design



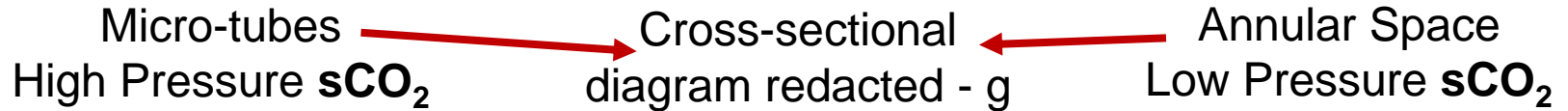
sCO₂ counter-current - microchannel heat exchanger

- Over 5 MW Capacity
- Operating Conditions: 567°C and 255 bar
- Design Conditions: 575°C @ 280 bar
- Floating Head Design
- Serviceability and Maintenance
- Replaceable Tube Bundle
- Easier to manufacture and assemble

Designed per ASME Sec VIII, Div 1

Sunshot Recuperator Tube Bundle

Micro-tubes Cross-sectional Annular Space
High Pressure **sCO₂** diagram redacted - g Low Pressure **sCO₂**



> [tube count redacted]

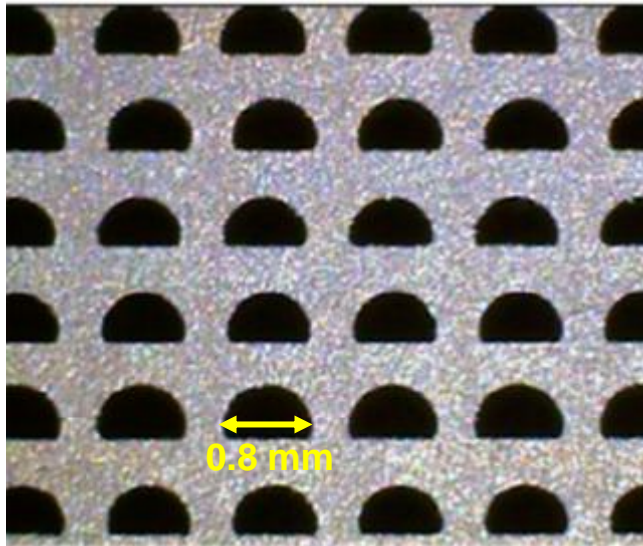
Tube Bundle
4,500 m²/m³

Cross-sectional
diagram redacted - g

Recuperator Tube Bundle Cross Section

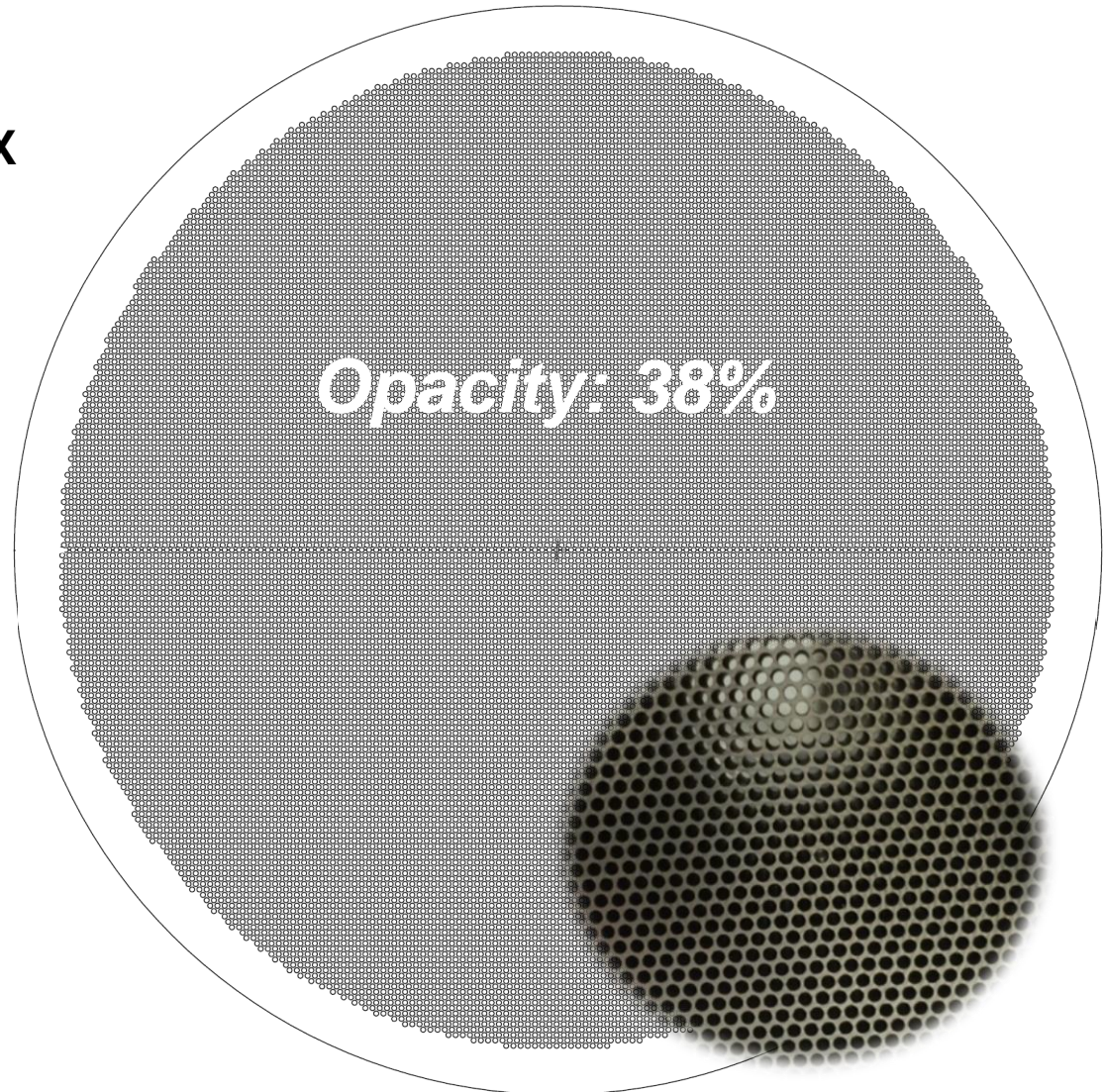
9" diameter, over [count redacted – g] micro-tubes

Microchannel Printed Circuit HX



Entropy 2015, 17, 3438-3457; doi:10.3390/e17053438

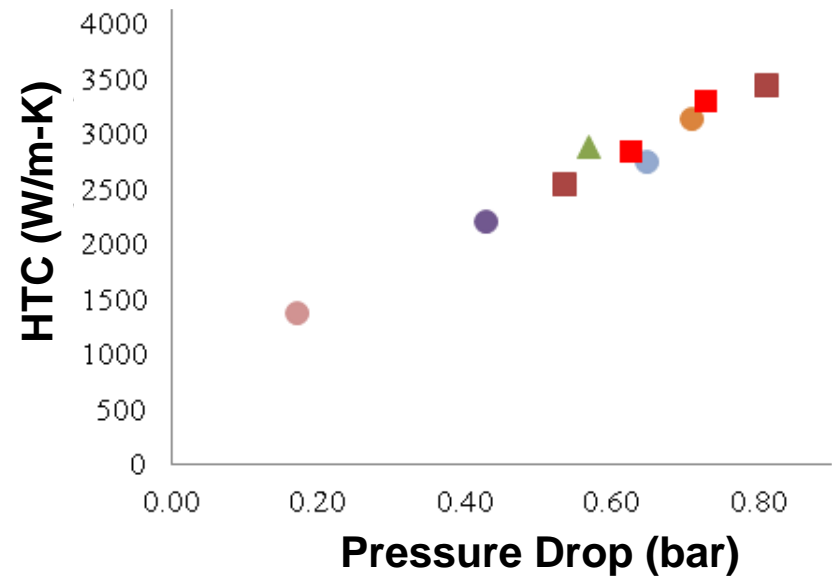
Opacity: 74%



Improving HTC

[Detail drawings redacted – g]

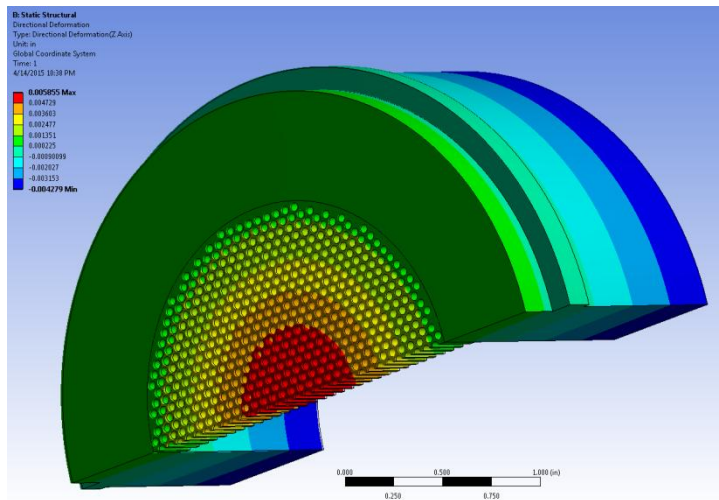
**~23% increase HTC &
~7% increase Pressure Drop**



Software Tools to Enhance Design

- CFD models for enhanced design strategies for the inlet and outlet manifolds
- Heat transfer models
- FEA analysis of the floating end tube-sheet

Tube-sheet FEA



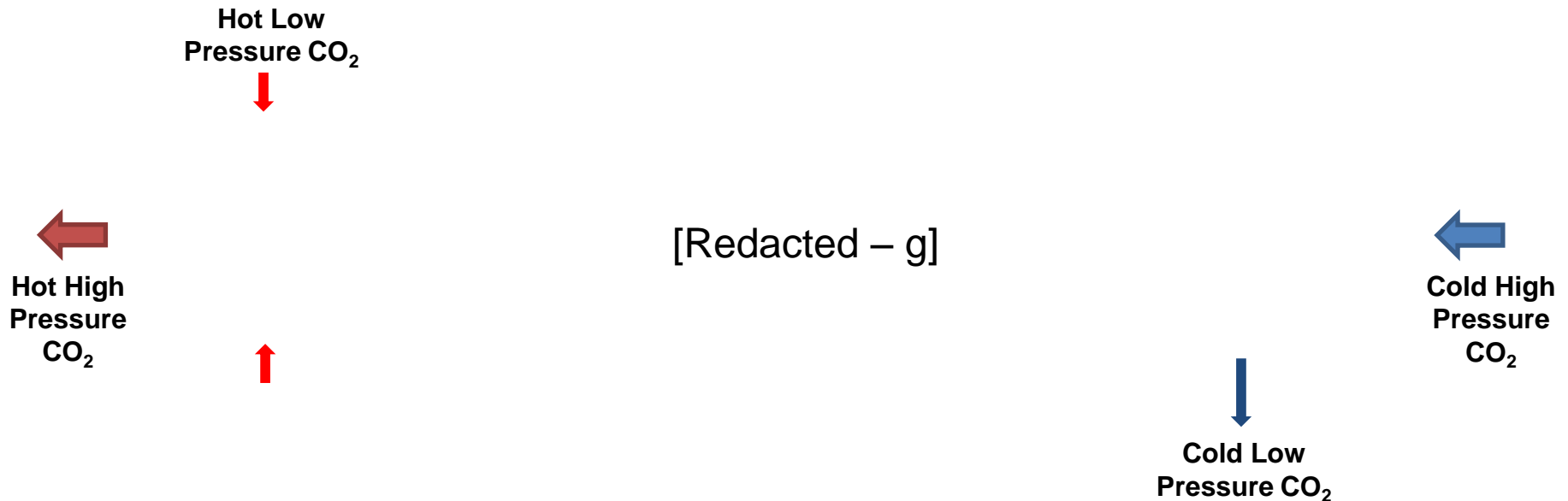
CFD Flow simulation

Redacted - g

2nd Generation – [redacted] Flange Design

[redacted -g] Tube Sheet:

- ASME section VIII, Div 1, UHX-14 [redacted – g] tube-sheet calculations by Thar verified SwRI's simulation.
- Tube-sheet can handle unbalanced forces
- Hot side tube-sheet welded to vessel end caps



2nd Generation – [redacted –g] Flange Design Benefits

- New, [redacted – g] Flange Design
- Improve Performance/Cost Ratio
- Optimized materials' use for hot and cold sides
- Improved reliability with fewer metal seals & bolts
- Easier to assemble

Inconel 625



[Redacted – g]

316 Stainless



5.5 MW Recuperator, Generation #1 Cost Estimates

Itemized table
redacted – b, f, g i]

Major costs

- Machining
- Materials
- Labor

Project Overview

- **Engineering Assessment of Advanced Recuperator Concepts**
 - **Critical enabling technologies or components**
 - **Manufacturability of the proposed concepts**
 - **Potential nth of a kind production cost**
 - **Anticipated recuperator performance with respect to current state of the art**
- **Prototype Fabrication, Testing and Evaluation**
- **Down Select and Fabrication of 47 MWt Recuperator**

Criteria for Modular, Low-Cost, High-Temperature Recuperators

- **Performance**

- Temperatures $\geq 575^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Differential pressures ~ 200 bar
- Lifetime (corrosion, creep, etc.)
- Ease of maintenance

- **Scalability**

- 10 - 1,000 MWe Facilities
- Transport

- **Cost $< \$100/\text{kWt}$**

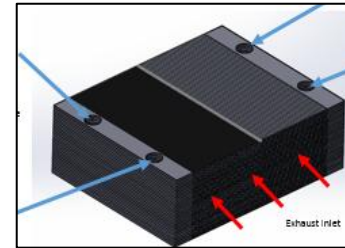
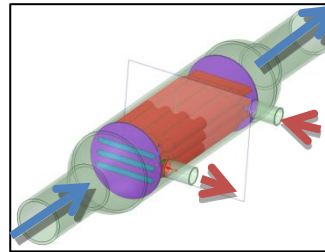
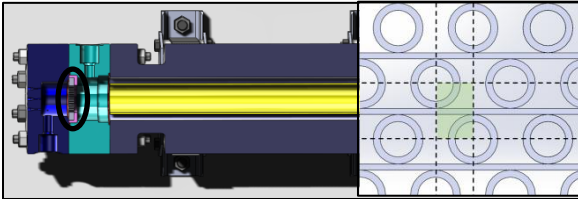
- Materials Selection
- Manufacturability

SOPO Tasks

A scaled prototype will verify the design process and technology before designing for 47 MWt

Task 1.0 Project Management and Planning

Task 2.0 Engineering Assessment of Advanced Recuperator Concepts



Other Concepts
from brainstorm

Task 3.0 Preliminary design (detail design of 100 kWt prototype)

Task 4.0 100 kWt prototype fabrication and testing

Go/No-Go Milestone for Budget Period 2

Task 5.0 Detail design of 47 MWt recuperator

Task 6.0 Fabrication of 47 MWt recuperator

Recuperator concepts will be generated and ranked based on performance and TRL

2.1 Concept review and new concept development

- Review literature and hold a brainstorm session for additional concepts
- Evaluate concepts by: effectiveness, manufacturability, and production cost

2.2 Concept technical gap assessment

- Assign TRL based on engineering analysis, literature, and industry knowledge

2.3 Recuperator development plan

- Outline development plan for each concept to achieve the operating requirements of the high temperature recuperator while minimizing cost

2.4 Component concept performance evaluation

- *Techno-Economic Analysis and rank concepts on performance, TRL, cost, and manufacturing challenges (Project specific deliverable)*
- Select critical technologies and one or more concepts for preliminary design

2.5 Critical components selection

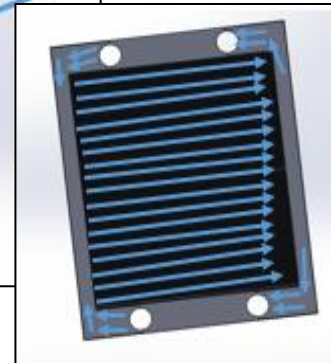
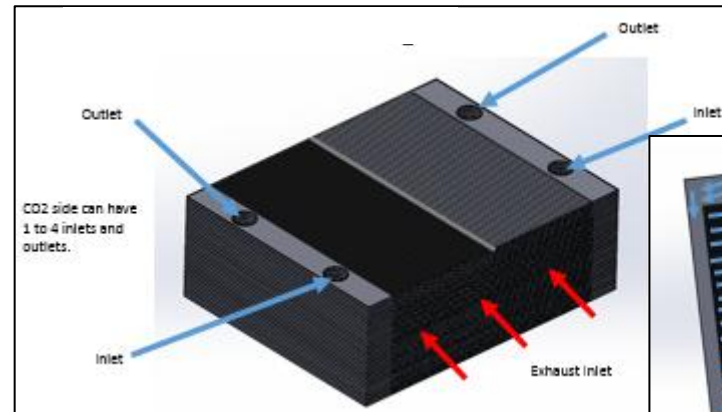
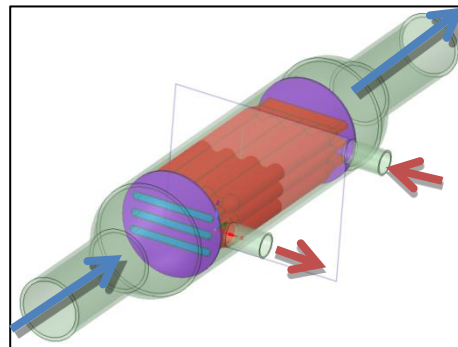
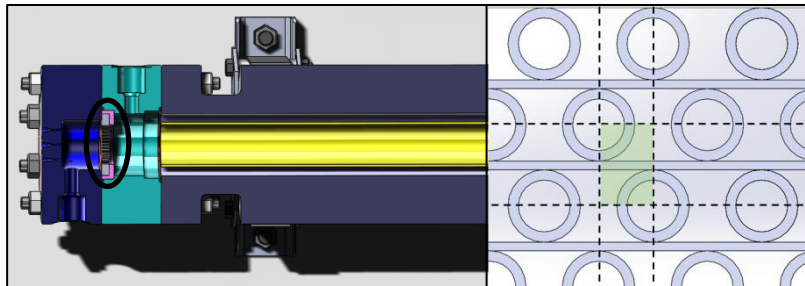
- Design review and risk mitigation plan for critical technologies in the concept
- Conduct lab-scale efforts as needed to reduce risk for preliminary design stage

At least three concepts are compared for performance, cost, risk, &TRL

Each concept evaluated to identify:

- Critical enabling technology/components (assign TRL)
- Manufacturability (assign TRL)
- Expected performance compared to current state-of-the-art
- Assign overall TRL

Performance of each concept estimated with low fidelity modeling (i.e. one-dimensional)

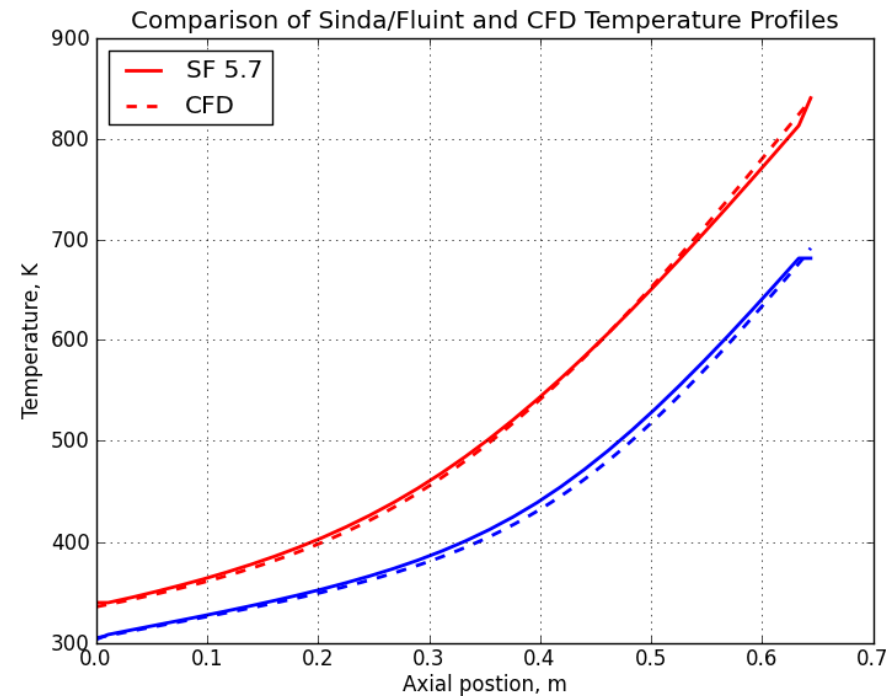
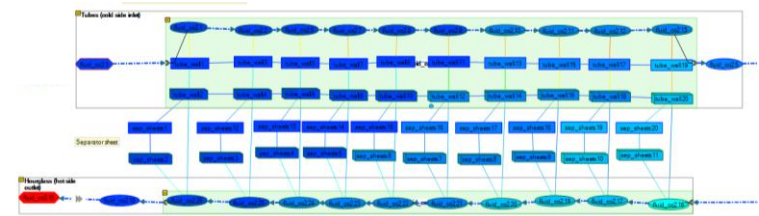
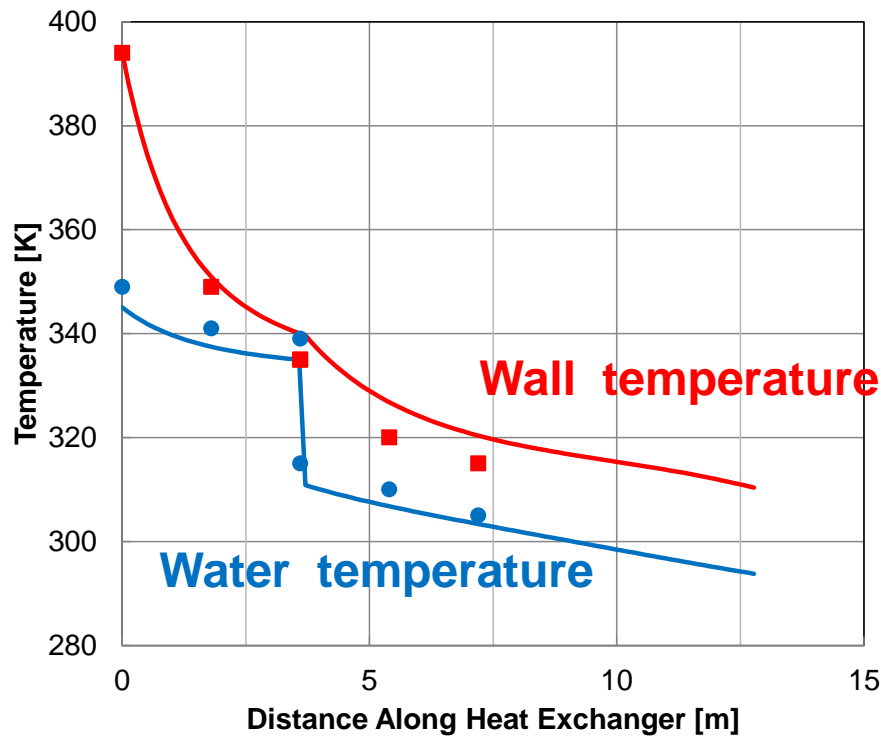
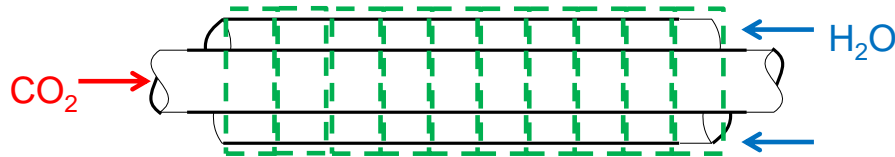


Other Concepts from
brainstorm

Potential Design Concepts

- **Corrosion-- Look at Coatings (e.g. Ag/Au - 90 Angstroms)**
- **Material: Sandvik, half the cost – comparable to Inconel 625**
- **HTC enhancements with little effect on Delta P (e.g. air foil concept)**
- **Integrate End Cap with Tube-sheet**
- **Reduce Short Circuiting Issues with Flange Design**

Concept performance is estimated with proven, low fidelity models



Counter-flow tube-in-tube heat exchanger - Data from Pitla 2001

For each concept selected

3.1 Initial recuperator layout and sizing

- One-dimensional fluid-thermal network or FEA to estimate performance
- System level analysis to investigate modular configurations and scalability

3.2 Feature analysis

- Detailed models of specific features using computational tools (CFD, CHT, FEA)
- Demonstrate the design meets STEP facility targets for effectiveness and ΔP

3.3 Initial material selection

- Material selection in accordance with ASME code for STEP facility conditions
- Stress analysis of critical features and pressure containment

3.4 Structural/Mechanical design

- Stress analysis considering the recuperator layout, flow path, and joints

3.5 Design for manufacturing and operability

- Consider sealing and manufacturing methods for the materials selected in 3.3
- Operability considerations: corrosion, maintenance, inspection, assembly

3.6 System level design and optimization

- Evaluate modularity and scalability on recuperator design, considering maintenance and performance over a range of thermal duty

Computational models are used to assess local variations in fluid-thermal performance

3.2 Feature analysis

- Detailed models of specific features using computational tools (CFD, CHT)
- Demonstrate the design meets STEP facility targets for effectiveness and ΔP

CFD diagrams redacted - g

3.3 Initial material selection

Allowable Stress vs. Temperature

Allowable Stress - 2/3 Yield* (MPa)

Temperature (°C)

Allowable Stress*

- (a) The allowable stress at design temperature for most materials is the lessor of 1/3.5 the minimum effective tensile strength or 2/3 the minimum yield stress of the material for temperatures below the creep and rupture values.
- (b) At temperatures in the range where creep and stress rupture strength govern the selection of stresses, the maximum allowable stress value for all materials is established by the Committee not to exceed the lowest of the following: (1) 100% of the average stress to produce a creep rate of 0.01%/1,000 h (2) 100Favg% of the average stress to cause rupture at the end of 100,000 h (3) 80% of the minimum stress to cause rupture at the end of 100 ,000 h

3.3 Initial material selection

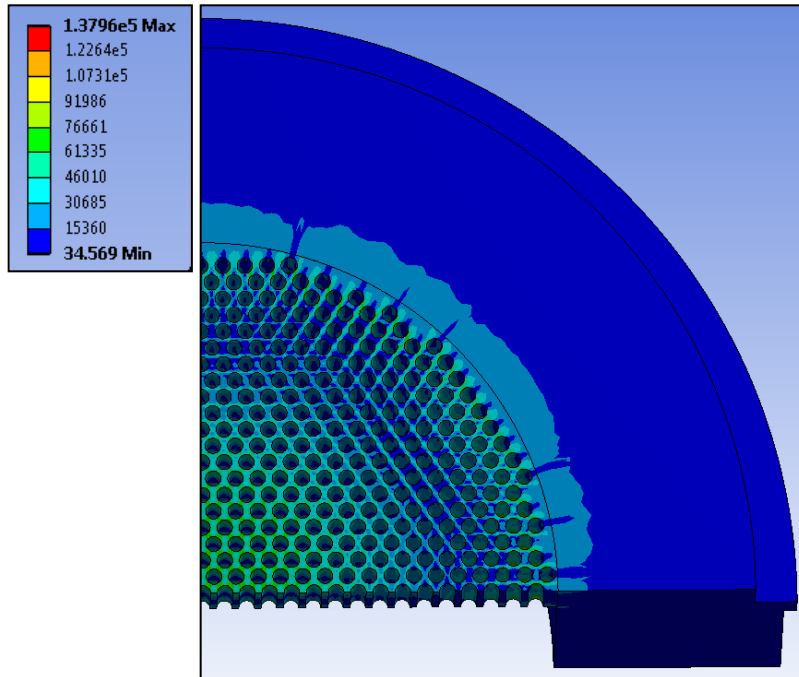
Rupture Stress vs. Temperature

Finite element analysis is used to estimate mechanical stresses and deflections

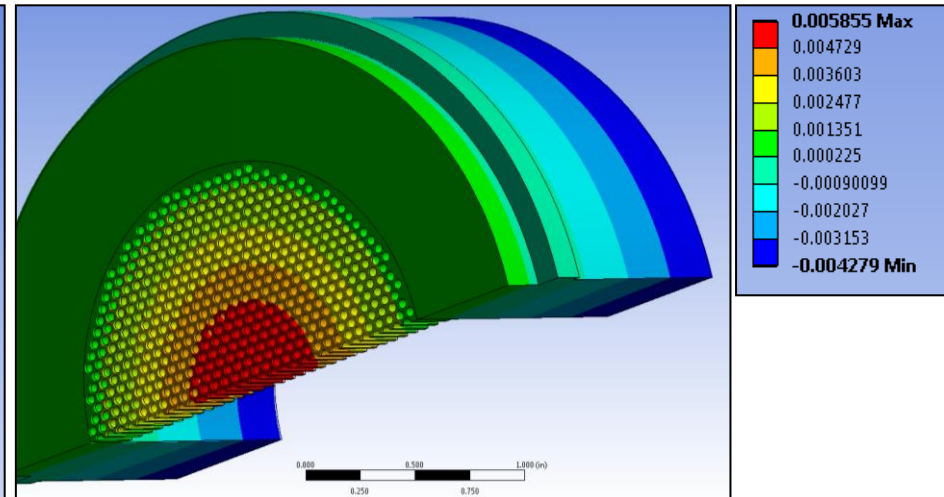
3.4 Structural/Mechanical design

- Stress analysis considering the recuperator layout, flow path, and joints

Stress [psi]



Displacement [in]



Source: DE-FE0024012 : "High Temperature Heat Exchanger Design and Fabrication for Systems with Large Pressure Differentials"

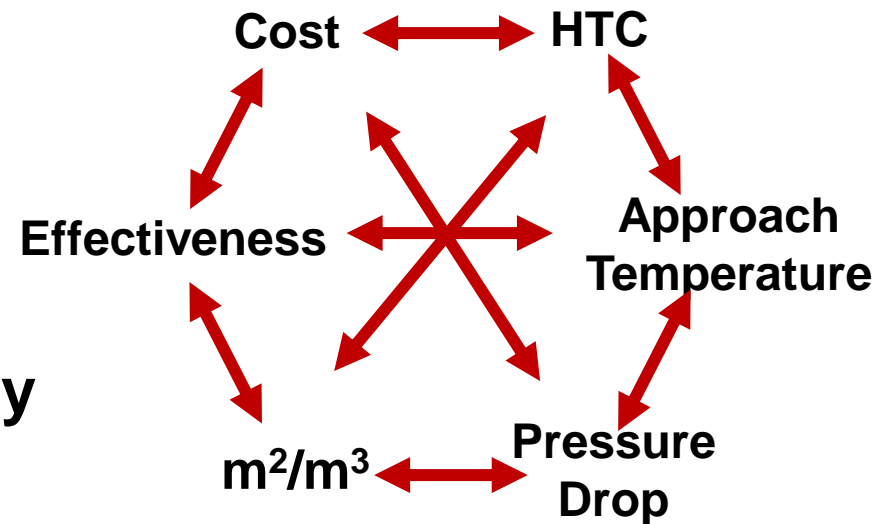
3.5 Design for manufacturing and operability

- Consider sealing and manufacturing methods for the materials selected in 3.3
- Operability considerations: corrosion, maintenance, inspection, assembly

3.6 System level design and optimization

- Evaluate modularity and scalability on recuperator design, considering maintenance and performance over a range of thermal duty

- **Performance/Cost Ratio**
- **Optimize Size**
- **Design for Manufacturability**



Scaled testing is conducted to verify low TRL technology and the recuperator design methods

4.1 Technology selection and test planning

- Bench scale testing of critical, low TRL technologies identified during Task 2.0

4.2 Prototype selection

- Select recuperator concepts from Task 3.0 for testing to verify design methods

4.3 Prototype fabrication

- Fabricate recuperator concepts selected in Task 4.2

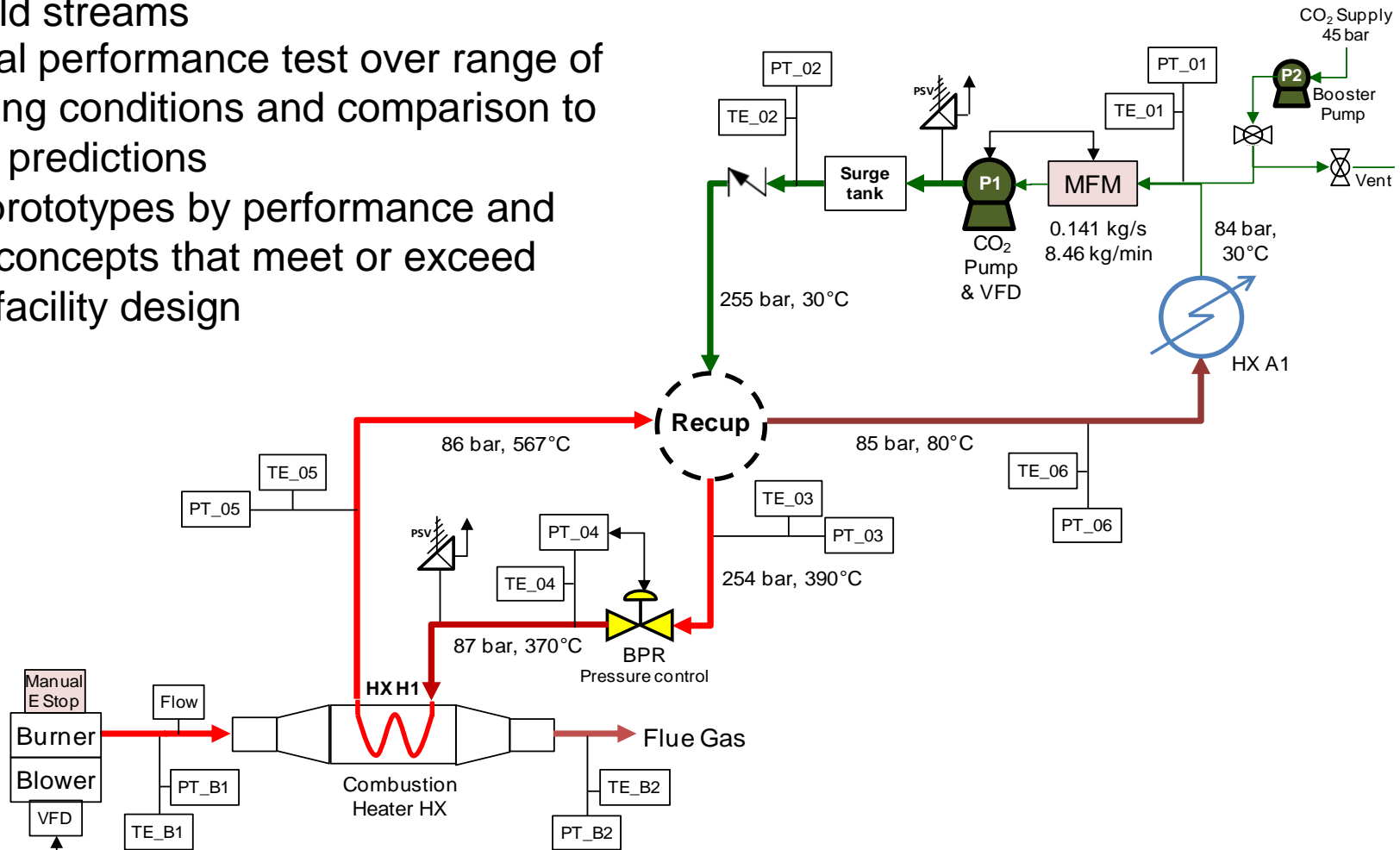
4.4 Prototype pressure and performance testing

- Static pressure testing at STEP facility conditions for mechanical integrity and leakage between hot and cold streams
- Thermal performance test over range of operating conditions and comparison to design predictions
- Rank prototypes by performance and select concepts that meet or exceed STEP facility design

4.4 Prototype pressure and performance testing

- Static pressure testing at STEP facility conditions for mechanical integrity and leakage between hot and cold streams
- Thermal performance test over range of operating conditions and comparison to design predictions
- Rank prototypes by performance and select concepts that meet or exceed STEP facility design

Thar Energy Test Stand Flow Diagram



If decided, the selected concept will be designed for the STEP facility and readied for fabrication

Go/No-Go Milestone for Budget Period 2

5.1 Data exchange and requirements verification

- Technical interchange to ensure the design is compatible with the STEP facility

5.2 System level integration and optimization

- Integrate components (manifolds, thermal core, pressure vessel, etc.) into a single system and optimize for scalability

5.3 Detail component optimization

- Update computational studies as needed for final design and integration
- Demonstrate recuperator performance meets STEP requirements

5.4 Structural/Mechanical design

- Demonstrate the recuperator meets structural requirements

5.5 Design for manufacturing and operability

5.6 Fabrication drawings (*Project specific deliverable*)

5.7 Test planning and system instrumentation

- Detailed test plan and instrumentation list

Example: Modular Recuperator (no HTC enhancements)

Cycle specification:				Recuperator flow rates, sCO2			
				10 MWe / 46.6 MWt		600 MWe/2796 MWt	
				kg/s	# Units	kg/s	# Units
°C	Bar	psi	18.9	104.5	1	1254.0	5
Hot side inlet	581	89.6					
Hot side outlet	204	88.3					
Cold side inlet	194	239.9					
Cold side outlet	533	238.6	18.9				
Sizing -a,b:				STEP model		Full-scale model	
Microchannel tubular design:							
Overall length			inches	102		217	
Tube bundle OD			inches	38.00		118.11	

a- Meets 19.5 max pressure drop specification

b- Meets allowable stress

The 47MWt recuperator is constructed and tested for pressure prior to delivery

6.1 Fabrication and assembly

6.2 Hydrostatic testing

- Demonstrate structural integrity using pressurized water, per ASME code

6.3 Cold flow test

- Leak test between streams using CO₂ at design pressure and low temperature

6.4 Delivery (*Project specific deliverable*)

- Demonstrate the recuperator meets structural requirements

Program Management

Project Management Plan Updated

- Biweekly Tel Con with Team Partners
- Additional meetings will be scheduled as needed
- Quarterly:
 - Milestones Review
 - Risks and Mitigation Strategies Review
 - Progress Reports
- Semi-Annual:
 - Briefings to the DOE project officer based on quarterly report

Overview Timeline

	10/1/15-3/31/17						4/1/17-3/31/19							
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14
Phase 1														
Phase 2														

● Milestone ● Go/No-go Milestone		Budget Period 1					
		10/1/15-3/31/17					
Tasks & Milestones		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
Task 1.0 - Project management and planning							
1.1	Coordination of participants (BP1 & BP2)						
1.2	Revise Project Management Plan						
1.3	Risk Management Plan						
Milestones							
1	Submit Project & Risk Management Plans						
2	Kickoff meeting						
Task 2.0 - Engineering Assessment of Advanced Recuperator Concepts							
2.1	Concept Review and New Concept Development						
2.2	Concept Technical Gap Assessment						
2.3	Recuperator Development Plan						
2.4	Component Concept Performance Evaluation						
2.5	Critical Components Selection						
Milestones							
3	Complete Techno Economic Analysis for selected recuperator conce						
Task 3.0 - Preliminary design							
3.1	Initial Recuperator Layout and Sizing						
3.2	Feature Analysis						
3.3	Initial Material Selection						
3.4	Structural/Mechanical Design						
3.5	Design for Manufacturing and Operability						
3.6	System level Design and Optimization						
Milestones							
4	Complete system level optimization study						
5	Complete preliminary designs for prototypes selected for fabrication						
Task 4.0 - Prototyping							
4.1	Technology Selection and Test Planning						
4.2	Prototype selection						
4.3	Prototype fabrication						
4.4	Prototype pressure and performance testing						
Milestones							
6	Complete prototype selection						
7	Complete prototype fabrication						
8	Complete prototype testing						
9	The availability/accessibility to an appropriate high temperature test facility capable of						

Phase 2 Schedule

		● Milestone ● Go/No-go Milestone		Budget Period 2 4/1/17-3/31/19					
		Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14
Tasks & Milestones									
Task 5.0 - Detail Design									
5.1	Data exchange and requirements verification								
5.2	System level integration and optimization								
5.3	Detail Component Optimization								
5.4	Structural/Mechanical Design								
5.5	Design for Manufacturing and Operability								
5.6	Fabrication Drawings								
5.7	Test Planning and System Instrumentation								
Milestones									
10	Detail Component Optimization		●						
11	Structural/Mechanical Design		●						
12	Design for Manufacturing and Operability		●						
13	Fabrication drawings complete		●						
14	Test Planning and System Instrumentation		●						
Task 6.0 - Recuperator Fabrication									
6.1	Fabrication and Assembly								
6.2	Hydrostatic testing								
6.3	Cold flow test								
6.4	Delivery								
Milestones									
15	Fabrication and Assembly					●			
16	Hydrostatic testing						●		
17	Cold flow test							●	
18	Delivery								●

Budget Breakdown

Participant	Type	Project Budget	Cost Share	POC
Thar Energy LLC	For Profit	\$ 990,169	\$ 666,292	Lalit Chordia
Southwest Research Institute	Not for Profit	\$ 1,575,000	\$ -	Grant Musgrove
Oak Ridge National Laboratory	Not for Profit	\$ 50,000	\$ -	Bruce Pint
Georgia Institute of Technology	Not for Profit	\$ 50,000	\$ -	Devesh Ranjan
Project Total - Phase I		\$ 2,665,169	\$ 666,292	

Participant	Type	Project Budget	Cost Share	POC
Thar Energy LLC	For Profit	\$ 6,029,657	\$ 1,682,415	Lalit Chordia
Southwest Research Institute	Not for Profit	\$ 700,000	\$ -	Grant Musgrove
Project Total - Phase II		\$ 6,729,657	\$ 1,682,415	

Total Project \$ 9,394,826 \$ 2,348,707